

FINANCIAL PROGRAMS

Youth Programs

Youth in Transition prepares eligible foster-care teens for living on their own. Provides educational support, job training, independent living skills training, self-esteem counseling, and other programs and support to equip teens with educational, vocational, and psychosocial skills to function as independent adults. The **MISTY** program was created to provide career development and employment training assistance to juvenile delinquents transitioning from “dependency” to “functional independence” within the community. In an effort to align **MISTY** with the federal Chafee Legislation (Title IV-E Independent Living/Youth in Transition) services provided by **MISTY** will include: career exploration, job readiness, career training, job placement, and employment retention.

The College Fund was also established for delinquent youth. This fund, has limited resources, and as such requires that all traditional forms of funding be explored and exhausted before submitting a request.

To be eligible, youths ages 15 - 20 must be in a community placement and engaged in school, vocational training, and/or be employed.

Child Development and Care/ Child Day Care Services (CDC)

CDC pays all or a portion of child day care expenses for low income families when the parent, legal guardian, or other caretaker is unavailable to provide child care due to employment, education, and/or a health/social condition for which treatment is being received. In FY 2003, a monthly average of 122,360 children received day care support.

Child Support Enforcement

Child Support Enforcement assists in establishing paternity and obtaining child support payments from non-custodial parents of both FIP and non-FIP children. Michigan collected and distributed over \$1.4 billion in support payments in FY 2003.

Employment

The Work First program provides employment and training services to customers participating in a variety of activities to become self-supporting. In FY 2003, 24,021 cases were closed due to employment. This program is administered by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth through local Michigan Works! Agencies which also administer employment & training programs to Food Assistance and other non-

cash recipients. Participation in Work First is required for most families receiving FIP.

Family Independence Program (FIP)

FIP provides cash assistance to eligible families with children. A monthly average of 74,086 families received FIP during FY 2003. A typical FIP case is composed of one parent and two children. A family with income may be eligible if the income is less than the family's needs by FIP standards. The FIP payment is the difference between the family's needs and income minus work disregards. The average FIP case payment in FY 2003 was \$411.09 per month. FIA also provides in-home, family-based services that connect the family to community resources to prevent child abuse/neglect and enhance family interactions.

Food Assistance Program (FAP)

FAP increases the food purchasing power of low-income households. In FY 2003, a monthly average of 363,350 cases (836,518 people) received Food Assistance. In FY 2003, a household of four with a monthly gross income of \$3,068 or less, and net income (gross income minus allowable expenses) of less than \$1,534, qualifies for benefits. Food Assistance benefits decrease as income increases. In FY 2003, monthly Food Assistance benefits averaged \$78.45 per person per month or \$2.58 per person per day.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

LIHEAP helps meet home heating costs. During FY 2003, this program helped 367,000 households. Some households may have received more than one LIHEAP Service. LIHEAP funds for heating assistance are also available through the Home Heating Credit (Department of Treasury).

Medicaid (Medical Assistance, MA)

MA provides necessary health care services for FIP and SSI recipients and other low-income people who are under age 21, caring for children, pregnant, disabled, blind, or age 65 and older. A monthly average of 1,292,585 people were eligible for MA services in FY 2003. Medicaid funds are administered by the Michigan Department of Community Health (DCH). Eligibility is determined by FIA staff.

State Disability Assistance (SDA)

SDA provides cash assistance to disabled adults who do not have dependent children. To qualify, a person must be unable to work for at least 90 days due to physical or mental impairment. A monthly average of 9,114 people received SDA in FY 2003. A person with income can be eligible for SDA if his/her income is less than his/her needs by SDA standards. The average SDA case payment in FY 2003 was \$243.52 per month.

State Emergency Relief (SER)

SER provides limited assistance to individuals and families facing emergencies that threaten their health or safety. Covered services include: rent payments to avoid homelessness; house payments and property tax payments when foreclosure or tax sales are imminent; home repairs; assistance with home heating, electric, and water bills; and burial assistance. FIA contracts with the Salvation Army to provide emergency shelter statewide. Anyone in need may apply for State Emergency Relief. Eligibility is not limited to recipients of other FIA assistance.

Adult Medical Program (AMP)

AMP provides basic, outpatient health care services to low-income adults who do not qualify for Medicaid or other medical benefits. AMP is administered by DCH. FIA workers determine eligibility.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

The Social Security Administration manages this program for people who are blind, disabled, or elderly. It served an average of 213,651 people per month in Michigan in FY 2003. FIA pays a supplement to all SSI recipients. Recipients of SSI are also automatically eligible for Medicaid. The average annual state supplemental payment was \$268.81 per case in 2003.

The Family Independence Agency will not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, height, weight, marital status, political beliefs or disability. If you need help with reading, writing, hearing, etc., under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are invited to make your needs known to an FIA office in your county.

FIA Pub 615 (Rev. 6-04) Previous edition obsolete.

FIA At A Glance - FY 2003 -

MISSION

Through community leadership, the FIA helps to improve the quality of life in Michigan by protecting children and vulnerable adults, delivering juvenile justice services, and providing support to strengthen families and individuals striving for independence. Our vision statement is that FIA will be the national, state and local leader in human services delivery through employee commitment, customer focus, technology, innovation and effective partnerships.

EMPLOYEES

In FY 2003, FIA had approximately 11,000 employees. Nearly 90 percent of staff are located in local offices as family independence specialists, eligibility specialists, child and adult service workers, disability examiners, clerical and investigative staff. The remaining employees provide management and support for field staff and provide support services such as data processing, policy development, personnel, and financial management, and operate centrally administered programs or work in residential care facilities.

LOCATIONS

The central administrative offices are located in Lansing. Services to customers are available through a county office network. Some of the more heavily populated areas have several district offices. For instance, Wayne County has 23 district offices and Oakland County has 5.

BUDGET

The FY 2004 appropriation total is \$3.9 billion. Child day care is one of FIA's largest programs, with an appropriation of \$490 million. The Family Independence Program (FIP) has appropriated funds of \$369 million. The federal government shares in the cost of FIP and State Emergency Relief (SER) and pays virtually all Food Assistance and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) costs. The SDA (State Disability Assistance) program is state funded; the FY 2004 appropriation is \$25.4 million.



SERVICE PROGRAMS

Adoption Services

Adoption services plans and supervises adoptive placement of permanent state or FIA-supervised court wards. The Michigan Children's Institute superintendent acts as legal guardian for permanent state wards. Payment and medical assistance to parents adopting special needs children may also be provided.

Adult Community Placement

Adult Community Placement provides community placement coordination for licensed, residential care for aged, physically handicapped or developmentally disabled adults who are unable to live alone.

Adult Independent Living Services

Adult Independent Living Services provide case management, personal care and other supportive services to enable individuals to remain in their own homes.

Children's Trust Fund (CTF)

CTF focuses on public education and awareness, information dissemination and the funding a network of local community-based prevention programs. CTF is a statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to the prevention of child abuse and neglect. It is funded through license plate sales, direct donations, trust income, fundraising and grants.

Community Supportive Division (CSD)

The CSD is responsible for family preservation and community support services. It operates as a resource to local offices and provides programs and funding for services that assist in keeping families together. Family preservation programs such as Wraparound, an ongoing intensive family service, and Families First of Michigan, an intensive crisis intervention program, provide families with the support they need at a time when out-of-home placement of a youth is eminent. The CSD provides funding for community-based programs through the use of the Child Care Fund, Child Safety and Permanency Plan, Child Protection/Community Partners, and Strong Families Safe Children. Other community based programs offered through the CSD are Family Together Building Solutions, Family Reunification Program, Family Group Decision Making, 0-3, and Early On.

Disability Determination Service (DDS)

DDS determines the eligibility of adults and children who apply for benefits under the Social Security and Supplemental Security Income disability programs. Customers may also be referred by DDS to other agencies for job training, and health services. DDS also makes disability decisions for disability related programs, such as State Disability Assistance and Medicaid. Disability decisions are also made for the state retirement system.

Family Preservation Services

Families First provides short-term crisis services as an alternative to out-of-home care for children of families referred by protective services, foster care, delinquency, or domestic violence. Most services are provided in the home and include parenting training and practical assistance in home management. Other family preservation programs such as wraparound are also available.

Foster Care

Foster Care provides out-of-home placement and supervision for children in cases of delinquency, abuse, or neglect when deemed necessary by Family Court. Services to children and families are provided to help ensure safe homes for children.

HIV/AIDS Services

HIV/AIDS services provides advocacy services for people who test positive for HIV or AIDS, including information, referrals and coordination of FIA services with community resources, case management and other government benefits. The Insurance Assistance Program pays the private medical insurance premiums for those with HIV or AIDS who qualify.

Office of Juvenile Justice (OJJ)

This provides for the care and supervision of delinquent state wards referred to the FIA by the courts. It encompasses a range of prevention, rehabilitation and correctional services to juvenile offenders ages 12 through 20. Public placement options ranging from community-based programs to secure facilities are provided. Treatment programs are comprehensive, individualized and provide educational services, cognitive restructuring, family assistance, crisis intervention and recreation.

Reintegration and employment services are offered for youths reintegrating into the community from residential placements. Also provided are home-based services designed to divert juveniles from out-of-home placement.

Michigan Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board (MDVPTB)

MDVPTB provides funding to 49 programs assisting victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children. All programs are nonprofit community-based agencies. In addition to prevention activities, these agencies work with the criminal justice, legal, child welfare, social services, medical, mental health, and educational systems to improve response to victims and some offer transitional housing coupled with supportive services. Generally these agencies provide: shelter services; 24-hour crisis lines; individual and group counseling; transportation assistance; information about legal options; and assistance with emergency medical needs, financial assistance, locating permanent housing; support services for children and locating assailant treatment services. MDVPTB is also engaged in a federally funded demonstration project (known as Safe Havens), involving supervised visitation and safe exchange for domestic violence cases in four pilot communities in Michigan.

Migrant Services

Migrant Services coordinates services to over 40,000 migrant agricultural workers and family members every year through 11 regional Migrant Resource Councils and the State of Michigan Interagency Migrant Services Committee. FIA services include Food Assistance; day care; State Emergency Relief; Medicaid; hospitalization; outreach and referral.

Native American Affairs and Indian Outreach

Native American Affairs coordinates implementation of federal and state laws, including the Indian Child Welfare Act. Develops programs and policy and coordinates resources, advocacy, training, and technical assistance. Provides information & referral to health, education, employment, training, and housing opportunities.

Protective Services

Protective services investigates reports of alleged abuse, neglect, or exploitation of children or vulnerable adults, and provides intervention necessary to help ensure the safety and well-being of children and adults.

Refugee Assistance Services

Refugee services coordinates a variety of services to eligible refugees. Services include reception and placement, short-term cash and medical assistance, comprehensive employment services, foster care for unaccompanied minors, and initial health screenings.

Runaway and Homeless Youth Services Program

Runaway and Homeless Youth Services provides services to runaway and homeless youths and, when appropriate, their families. Services are provided through contracts with private agencies.

Teen Parent Program

Teen Parent Program provides comprehensive coordinated services to teen parents in 18 counties to assist in meeting the health and developmental needs of their children. Education, training and employment services are provided to enhance teen parents capacity to independently provide for themselves and their children.

Volunteer Services

Based on the needs of the agency, volunteers are recruited, trained and placed for direct services to FIA customers, as indirect customer service providers or as administrative support for the agency. Volunteer Services Coordinators mobilize and develop community resources and develop opportunities for community service for FIA employees.

Information

about FIA programs and services is available by telephone at (517) 373-7394, and via Internet at www.michigan.gov/fia Information published in this fact sheet is accurate through September 30, 2003.